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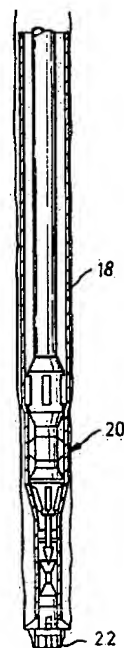
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(54) **Drilling method**

(57) A drilling method comprises advancing a drill string through a cased section of a wellbore. The drill string comprises an expandable tubular, a drill assembly having a drill bit, and a tubing expander. The expandable tubular is advanced through the wellbore below the cased section, and at least a portion of the expandable tubular is expanded into the drilled wellbore using the expander. The expandable tubular does not overlap the cased section of the wellbore.



**Fig.5**

**EP 1 505 251 A3**



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## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 04 10 5800

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague		5 January 2007	Schouten, Adri
<p><b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b></p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

4  
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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82